Message Text

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ACTION SP-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 PC-01

AID-05 IGA-01 ABF-01 RSC-01 /039 W

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R 040915Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8899

CONFIDENTIAL TEHRAN 9344

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, SGEN

SUBJ: FY 1976 PEACE CORPS PROGRAM

REF: A. STATE 235745; B. STATE 236947

- 1. EMBASSY AND PC/IRAN IN COMPLETE ACCORD WITH APPROACH PROPOSED REFTELS. FOLLOWING NANEAP REGION PCD CONFERENCE AT KUALA LUMPUR, PCD THOMAS HAS EXPLORED WITH AMBASSADOR AND DCM HOW GOI FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF PC PROGRAM IN IRAN MIGHT BE RAISED TO LEVEL MORE IN KEEPING WITH IRAN'S CURRENT FINANCIAL CAPABILITY. PC/I RECOMMENDATIONS, WITH WHICH EMBASSY CONCURS, ARE SET FORTH FULLY IN THOMAS/SEARLES LETTER OF OCTOBER 27 SENT BEFORE REFTELS RECEIVED.
- 2. FOLLOWING ARE RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS POSED PARA 5 REFTEL B:
- (A.) WITHIN PAST THREE MONTHS GOI HAS AGREED TO INCREASE ITS CASH CONTRIBUTION FROM \$889 TO \$1333 PER VOLUNTEER PER YEAR.
- (B.) GOI MAY AGREE TO FURTHER INCREASE ITS CONTRIBUTIONS IN NEAR FURTURE. IT DISTINCTLY
 POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, GOI WOULD BE RELUCTANT INCREASE ANNUAL
 PER VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION ABRUPTLY TO \$7500 LEVEL
 SUGGESTED THOMAS/SEARLES LETTER. GOI MIGHT MORE READILY
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AGREE TO COMPROMISE INCREASE NOW TOGETHER WITH TIME-

TABLE FOR FUTURE INCREASES.

- (C.) IF GOI UNWILLING MAKE COMMITMENT TO INCREASE PC CONTRIBUTION SUBSTANTIALLY, BELIEVE PROGRAM SHOULD BE PHASED OUT. DO NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD DO GRAVE DAMAGE TO US INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.
- (\$.) NOT APPLICABLE.
- (3.) EMBASSY AND PC/I FEEL STRONGLY WE SHOULD INSIST ON SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN IRAN'S CONTRIBUTION. WE NOT DISTURBED AT PROSPECT OF REDUCED PROGRAM IF GOI NOT RESPONSIVE.
- 3. WOULD WELCOME OPPORTUNITY REVIEW THIS SUBJECT SOON AND IN DEPTH WITH NANEAP REGIONAL DIRECTOR AND/OR OTHER ACTION OFFICIALS. IN MEANTIME WE INTEND PURSUE INCREASED CONTRIBUTION ISSUE WITH GOI. HOPE SEARLES WILL MAKE TEHRAN AN EARLY STOP ON HIS ITINERARY. HELMS

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Message Attributes

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